(b) (i) to elicit the views of State Governments/UTs and other Commissions on the subject,

(ii) to suggest criteria for identification of economically backward classes,

(iii) to recommend the welfare measures and quantum of reservation in education and Government Employment in consultation with the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

(iv) to suggest the necessary constitutional, legal and administrative modalities as required for the implementation of their recommendations.

The Government has extended the term of the Commission for a period of one year *i.e.* upto 31.1.2008.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (c) Do not arise.

Displacement of tribals in Jharkhand

2272. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the tribals displaced in Jharkhand during the last 50 years due to major dams, industries, army establishments, coal mining, iron ore mining and other mineral mining;

(b) whether Government are aware that because of these activities, tribals have migrated to other cities and villages and have become landless labourers; and

(c) whether any scientific study has been conducted on the plight of the tribals due to the above mentioned reasons and if not, whether Government would assess the situation now?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) As per the information received from Government of Jharkhand, since the creation of the State on 15th November, 2000, no large scale displacement of tribals due to major dams, industries, army establishments, coal mining, iron ore mining, has taken place. Wherever the acquisition of tribal land has become necessary due to development projects, the displaced people have been provided with land and jobs etc.

(c) No such study has been conducted.

National Tribal Policy

2273. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the draft National Tribal Policy formulated by Government;

(b) whether the Policy would help in bringing the tribals in mainstream; and

(c) by when the proposed Policy is going to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has formulated a draft National Tribal Policy, 2007 in order to address the issues concerning tribals *viz.* lower Human Development Index, poor infrastructure, diminishing control over the natural resource base, persistent threats of eviction from their natural habitat, exclusion from mainstream society, inequality in distribution of wealth and opportunities, non-empowerment and inadequate implementation of constitutional provisions, and to ensure their active and informed participation in development. The policy aims at ensuring access of the Scheduled Tribes to mainstream education, healthcare and income generation to improve the quality of their life. Action has already been taken for its finalization as per procedure. No time-frame can be given at this stage.

Representation by Medana community

2274. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation is pending with Government to forward the study of Medana community of Andhra Pradesh to Andhra Pradesh Government for their views;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have received this study about Medanas of the State from the Mysore office of the Anthropological Survey of India nearly a year ago;

(c) if so, the reasons for the lack of action;

(d) by when Government would forward the report to get the views from the State Government; and

(e) the steps proposed to expedite this matter?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) No, Sir. But a representation enclosing a study conducted by the Anthropological Survey of India (AnSI) on the Medari community of Andhra Pradesh was received. The AnSI was then requested to confirm the study.

(b) to (e) The report from the AnSI, Kolkata recently received in this Ministry has been forwarded to the Andhra Pradesh Government for necessary action.

Inclusion of Banjara and Anwal in tribal community

†2275. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request from Uttarakhand Government to include social groups like Banjara and Anwal in the tribal community;

(b) whether Government are aware that both these social groups fall under the roving tribal community (Ghumantoo) and there has been a demand to include them among tribes for a long time; and